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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1195

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

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USIA FOR IBS/NCA
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS
SUBJ: VIET-NAM WEEKLY CEASEFIRE ASSESSMENT
DECEMBER 11-17, 1974

PART I -- SUMMARY

A. LAST WEEKS'S RECORD-HIGH NUMBER OF INCIDENTS FOR THE YEAR (1589) WAS BROKEN THIS WEEK, AS THE LEVEL COUNTRYWIDE WENT UP TO 1722. AS A WEEK AGO, THE VERY GREAT MAJORITY WERE IN MRS 3 AND 4, WITH EACH HITTING A NEW HIGH SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. CASUALTIES WERE UP FOR THE GVN, WHILE COMMUNIST FORCES KIA DECLINED. MONSOON RAINS AND MURKY SKIES DAMPENED THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING IN MR 1 AND THE NORTHERN PART OF MR 2. THE MOST NOTEWORTHY EVENT THIS WEEK WAS THE

SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE LONG STRUGGLE OF THE FIRST ARVN DIVISION TO RETAKE MO TAU MOUNTAIN, WITH ITS COMMANDING POSITION OVER THE PHU BAI VITAL SECTOR. ALTHOUGH THE FIGHTING IN MR 3 CONTINUED AT AN INTENSE LEVEL, REGION HQ DOES NOT EXPECT THIS DRY SEASON CAMPAIGN TO REACH ITS HIGH POINT UNTIL THE NINTH NVA DIVISION ENTERS THE BATTLE, NOW EXPECTED TO OCCUR IN JANUARY. IN THE DELTA, COMMUNIST FORCES ARE PAYING A VERY HIGH PRICE IN CASUALTIES AND SUPPLIES FOR THE RELATIVELY SMALL GAINS -- MAINLY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE--ACHIEVED IN THE RECENT INTENSE FIGHTING. RVNAF CONTINUES TO DO A CAPABLE JOB OF BLUNTING THE CONSIDERABLE COMMUNIST EFFORT.

B. HAVING RECAPTURED MO TAU MOUNTAIN, ARVN FORCES ARE NOW PRESSING TO RETAKE NUI BONG MOUNTAIN EAST OF MO TAU. OTHERWISE ACTIVITY IN MR 1 WAS AT A LOW LEVEL, WITH BAD WEATHER RESTRICTING GROUND AND AIR ACTIVITY FOR A GOOD PART OF THE WEEK.

C. FIGHTING WAS LESS INTENSE THIS WEEK IN MR 2, AT LEAST PARTIALLY AS A RESULT OF HEAVY RAINS IN THE NORTHERN PROVINCES. KONTUM WAS PARTICULARLY QUIET, BUT SECTOR OFFICIALS EXPECT A BIG JUMP IN COMMUNIST ACTIVITY ABOUT THE END OF THE MONTH. COMMUNIST ACTIVITY INCREASED IN BOTH LAM DONG AND BINH THUAN PROVINCES,
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AND THERE ARE REPORTS OF NVA/VC MOVEMENTS ACROSS THE CAMBODIAN BORDER FROM QUANG DUC. THE NVA ATTACKED A HAMLET IN TUYEN DUC RESULTING IN THE KILLING AND WOUNDING OF SIXTY PERSONS, OF WHOM 47 WERE CIVILIANS.

D. PRESSURE EASED IN THE VERY ACTIVE TAY NINH AREA OF MR 3, BUT ADDITIONAL ATTACKS ON TAY NINH CITY ARE EXPECTED SOON. COMMUNIST FORCES CONTINUE TO APPLY PRESSURE IN THE HOAI DUC RICE BOWL AREA,

BUT THE GVN IS RESISTING WELL. PHUOC LONG PROVINCE ALSO CAME UNDER HEAVY COMMUNIST PRESSURE, AND THE GVN THERE LOST THE FIRST DISTRICT TOWN (DUC PHONG) IN MR 3 SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. A STRIKING NUMBER OF GVN AIR ASSETS WERE LOST (AN A-37 AND A C-130) OR DAMAGED (SIX UH-1 HELICOPTERS).

E. ALTHOUGH THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING THIS WEEK REACHED A RECORD HIGH SINCE THE CEASEFIRE IN THE DELTA, THE GVN LOOKS FOR SOME DECREASE IN THE COMING WEEK AS A RESULT OF HEAVY NVA/VC LOSSES AND INCREASED MOONLIGHT. THE CENTER OF FIGHTING MOVED TO THE NORTHERN DELTA. NVA/VC FORCES HAVE MADE SOME GAINS RECENTLY, BUT THESE HAVE BEEN MAINLY IN RURAL AREAS. RVNAF, IN POINT OF FACT, HAS BEEN HANDLING THE HEAVY PRESSURE QUITE EFFECTIVELY. IN MANY AREAS THE SITUATION HAS BEEN QUITE FLUID. FOR EXAMPLE, DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS IN THE CENTRAL DELTA FIFTY OPERATING BASES AND WATCH TOWERS AND 64 VILLAGE AND HAMLET OFFICES HAVE BEEN REPORTED OVERRUN OR ABANDONED, AND 42 VILLAGE AND HAMLET OFFICES RETAKEN. THROUGHOUT THE DELTA A GREAT MANY HEADQUARTERS (BOTH DISTRICT AND VILLAGE) HAVE BEEN SHELLED. THE COMMUNISTS HAVE ALSO FOCUSED CONSIDERABLE EFFORT IN ATTEMPTING TO INTERDICT LOCS.

PART II -- ICCS

A. ENDING A 13-MONTH TOUR IN VIET-NAM AS HEAD OF THE HUNGARIAN DELEGATION TO THE ICCS, AMBASSADOR LORINCZ-NAGY DEPARTED SAIGON FOR HOME ON DEC 17. HIS REPLACEMENT IS NOT EXPECTED TO ARRIVE UNTIL MID JANUARY.

B. THE INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS HAVE CONTINUED TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS OF CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS. DA NANG REPORTED A TOTAL OF SIX OBSERVATIONS CONDUCTED IN MR 1 (ICCS REGIONS 1 AND 2). IN MR 2 (ICCS REGIONS 3 AND 4) THE INDONESIANS CONDUCTED ONE CONFIDENTIAL

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OBSERVATION AND IN MR 3 (ICCS REGION 5) INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS TOGETHER OR INDONESIANS ALONE CONDUCTED SIX. IN MR 4 (ICCS REGIONS 6 AND 7) THEY CONDUCTED TWO OBSERVATIONS.

PART III -- FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS

THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED INTO ITS TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK.

PART IV -- COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT.

A. COMMUNISTS SAY MALIK TOES WHITE HOUSE LINE. HANOI AND LIBERATION RADIO BROADCASTS HAVE TAKEN INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ADAM MALIK TO TASK FOR HIS DECEMBER 11 REMARK THAT WILLINGNESS TO RETURN TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE WAS ONE TEST OF THE

SINCERITY OF THE RESPECTIVE VIETNAMESE PARTIES. (THE COMMUNISTS, OF COURSE, HAVE BEEN BOYCOTTING THE VARIOUS NEGOTIATING FORA FOR ONE-HALF YEAR NOW AND, SINCE OCT 8, HAVE INSISTED ON THE OUSTER OF PRESIDENT THIEU AS A CONDITION TO FURTHER TALKS.) A HANOI BROADCAST ON DEC 13 STATED THAT MALIK'S COMMENT WAS "NOT A PLEA FOR PEACE, BUT A MOVE TO SUPPORT, ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST THE UNITED STATES AND THE NGUYEN VAN THIEU CLIQUE IN SYSTEMATICALLY SABOTAGING THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIET-NAM AND WRECKING PEACE." THE BROADCAST CHARGED THAT, IN TRYING TO "BLAME THE PRG", MALIK'S "SLANDEROUS TUNE IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN," WHO ON DEC 9 HAD COMMENTED ON THE RECENT STEP-UP IN COMMUNIST MILITARY ACTIVITY. LIBERATION RADIO CHIMED IN ON DEC 14 WITH A STANDARD BURST OF CALUMNY, LABELLING MALIK'S STATEMENT "SHAMELESS" AND "DECEITFUL."

B. "PRG" CONDEMSN US NAVAL PRESENCE. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE SO-CALLED "PRG" ISSUED A STATEMENT ON DEC 17 BLASTING THE US "FOR OPERATING WARSHIPS AND PLANES ALONG THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE COAST." THE STATEMENT AVERRED THAT THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER "ENTERPRISE" AND FOUR DESTROYERS ARE MANEUVERING SOME TWO HUNDRED KILOMETERS OFF CENTRAL SOUTH VIET-NAM, WITH THE CARRIER LAUNCHING FIFTY AIRCRAFT DAILY. IT CONDEMNED THE SHIPS AS A VIOLATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND DEMANDED THAT THE US CEASE THE "ILLEGAL OPERATION" OF WARSHIPS AND PLANES ALONG THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE COAST.
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AMCONSUL CAN THO
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AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
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PART V - MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

I CORPS HQS BRIEFED 152 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS THIS WEEK, A
DECREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 235. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THUA THIEN (P)
WHERE THE 1ST ARVN DIVISION RECAPTURED MO TAU MOUNTAIN, THERE WAS
NO SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING DURING THE PAST WEEK. THERE WERE SOME
SCATTERED SMALL CONTACTS AND ABF'S IN QUANG NAM AND QUANG NGAI
PROVINCES BUT ACTIVITY REMAINS AT A LOW LEVEL. STEADY RAIN AND OVER-
CAST SKIES DURING THE LAST FIVE DAYS OF THE REPORTING PERIOD
RESTRICTED GROUND AND AIR ACTIVITY. GVN CASUALTIES: 69 KIA, 287

WIA; 25 MIA. NVA/VA LOSSES WERE: 345 KIA; 7 CAPTURED; 3 RETURNEES.
VNAF FLEW 21 COMBAT AIR SORTIES.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY IN QUANG TRI (P). ON DECEMBER 10TH AND 11TH, GVN FORCES REOCCUPIED THE CRESTS OF MO TAU MOUNTAIN IN THUA THIEN (P), INFLECTING HEAVY CASUALTIES ON VC/NVA FORCES WITH COMBINED AIR, ARTY, AND GROUND ATTACKS. NUI BONG MOUNTAIN, LOCATED TO THE EAST OF MO TAU, HAS BEEN FLANKED AND THE SUPPLY LINES OF THE REMAINING VC/NVA TROOPS HAVE BEEN REDUCED. THE PHU BAI VITAL SECTOR WAS LAST SHELLED ON DEC 10, WHEN 11 UNIDENTIFIED ROUNDS IMPACTED SW OF THE AIRBASE WITH NO DAMAGE REPORTED. SINCE THE RECAPTURE OF MO TAU, FIGHTING HAS VIRTUALLY STOPPED IN THE AREA.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN QUANG NAM (P) THERE HAVE BEEN ONLY A FEW SPORADIC ABF'S AND GROUND CONTACTS IN THE VICINITY OF HILL-52, DUC DUC, AND DAI LOC. ON DEC 11, THE VC BLEW UP A GUARDED CULVERT ON PROV HWY 587, 2 KM NE OF HIEU DUC (D), QUANG NAM (P), TEMPORARILY INTERRUPTING TRAFFIC. ON DEC 16, THE VC DESTROYED A PORTION OF THE CAU CHIM BRIDGE LOCATED SW OF DUY XUYEN, QUANG NAM (P), CAUSING A TEMPORARY INTERRUPTION OF TRAFFIC. ON DEC 16, VC SAPPERS ATTACKED A RICE STORAGE DEPOT ON THE
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OUTSKIRTS OF DANANG CITY CAUSING THE DESTRUCTION OF A STILL UNDETERMINED QUANTITY OF RICE. GVN SUFFERED 4 KIA AND 2 WIA DURING THIS ACTION.

THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT MILITARY ACTIVITY IN QUANG TIN (P); HOWEVER, ON DEC 10, VC/NVA DETONATED EXPLOSIVES AT THE KY HOA (V) NATL POLICE STATION AND VILLAGE DISPENSARY CAUSING 100 PERCENT DESTRUCTION OF THE POLICE STATION AND 50 PERCENT DAMAGE TO THE DISPENSARY.

IN QUANG NGAI (P), MILITARY ACTIVITY REMAINED AT A LOW LEVEL WITH NO SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING REPORTED. ON DEC 13, 3 RDS OF 82MM MORTAR WERE FIRED INTO BINH SON (D) TOWN, WOUNDING 2 CIVILIANS. ON DEC 13, VC FIRED 6 RDS OF 60MM MORTAR INTO AN AREA 3 KM NW OF BINH LIEN, WOUNDING 1 CIVILIAN. ON DEC 16, THE DUC PHO SUB SECTOR, QUANG NGAI (P) RECEIVED 2 RDS 82MM MORTAR RESULTING IN 1 CHILD KILLED AND 2 CHILDREN WOUNDED. ON DEC 16, GVN PF UNITS 1 KM WEST OF MO DUC, QUANG NGAI (P) RECEIVED 5 RDS 122MM ROCKET RESULTING IN 3 GVN SOLDIERS KIA, 3 WIA, 1 CIVILIAN KILLED AND 5 CIVILIANS WOUNDED.

4. ICCS:

THERE WERE TWO OBSERVATIONS CONDUCTED IN ICCS REGION I. ON TWO OCCASIONS THE SITES OF SHELLINGS IN THE PHU BAI AREA WERE

OBSERVED, ON DEC 12TH BY THE INDONESIANS, AND ON DEC 17TH BY THE
INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS. THERE WERE FOUR OBSERVATIONS CONDUCTED
DURING THE WEEK IN REGION II. ON DEC 12, IRANIANS FROM THE HOI AN
TEAM SITE, OBSERVED A BRIDGE IN HOA VANG (D) OF QUANG NAM (P)
WHICH HAD BEEN DAMAGED BY EXPLOSIVES THE DAY BEFORE. TWO OBSERVA-
TIONS WERE MADE BY THE TAM KY ICCS TEAM. ON DEC 10, THE INDONE-
SIANS VISITED A HAMLET IN TAM KY (D) OF QUANG TIN (P) WHICH HAD
BEEN ATTACKED THE PRECEDING DAY BY THE NVA/VC. ON DEC 12, THE
INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS VISTED KY HOA (V) IN THE LY TIN (D),
WHERE A POLICE STATION AND DISPENSARY HAD BEEN TARGETS OF EXPLO-
SIVES. ON DEC 13, INDONESIANS FROM CHU LAI OBSERVED A CULVERT IN
BINH SON (D), QUANG NGAI (P), WHICH HAD BEEN MINED THE DAY
BEFORE.

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

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CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

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USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
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PART VI - MR-2

1. SUMMARY: THE INTENSITY OF MILITARY ACTIVITY IN MR-2 ABATED SOMEWHAT THIS WEEK. IN BINH DINH HEAVY MONSOON RAINS INDUCED A LULL IN FIGHTING, WHILE IN PLEIKU THE PACE OF THE ARVN'S SUCCESSFUL "HOA BINH" OPERATION SLOWED. IN THE SOUTHERN

PROVINCES OF LAM DONG AND BINH THUAN, HOWEVER, VC HARASSMENT ACTIONS INCREASED. MR-2 HQS REPORTS THAT THE COMMUNISTS INITIATED 69 INCIDENTS, AS COMPARED WITH 66 LAST WEEK; 31 OCCURRED IN BINH DINH. REPORTED COMMUNIST KIA AND WEAPONS LOSSES FELL TO 200 AND 60, FROM 453 AND 139, RESPECTIVELY. GVN LOSSES WERE 59 KIA, 130 WIA, 4 CIA, AND 16 WEAPONS LOST, AS AGAINST 46 KIA, 146 WIA, 24 CIA, AND 9 WEAPONS LOST LAST WEEK. ARTILLERY EXPENDITURES DECLINED TO 11,404 ROUNDS FROM 24,973. THE USE OF TAC AIR AND RECONNAISSANCE ASSETS DECREASED TO 83 AND 173, DOWN FROM 212 AND 184. HELICOPTER SORTIES FLOWN FELL TO 696 FROM 980.

2. BINH DINH: HEAVY MONSOON RAINS CAUSED A LULL ON BINH DINH'S BATTLEFIELDS THIS WEEK. HOWEVER, COMMUNIST MILITARY INITIATIVES WHICH, FOR THE MOST PART, WERE CONFINED TO SHELLINGS AND HARASSING FIRE, CONTINUED IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICTS OF TAM QUAN, HOAI NHON, HOAI AN, AND PHU MY. IN PHU MY, WHERE VC LOCAL FORCES APPEAR TO BE AWAITING NEW DIRECTIVES, GVN RECONNAISSANCE PATROLS SEIZED THE INITIATIVE. ON DEC 10, FOR EXAMPLE, A SUB-SUBSECTOR INTELLIGENCE TEAM CONDUCTED A RAID AT BR 942720, RESULTING IN 6 VC KIA, 4 AK-47'S SEIZED, AND NUMEROUS DOCUMENTS CAPTURED. IN AN NHON, HOWEVER, A VC DEMOLITION TEAM ON DEC 13 PARTIALLY DESTROYED A BRIDGE ALONG THE RAILROAD LINE BETWEEN QUI NHON AND PHU CAT (BR 969345); RAIL TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE TWO CITIES HAS BEEN STOPPED PENDING REPAIRS TO THE BRIDGE, WHICH WILL TAKE

15 DAYS. MR-2 NHA TRANG HQS REPORTS THAT THE HQS AND 1ST AND 2ND BNS OF THE 40TH ARVN REGT HAVE SHIFTED FROM AN SON TO PHU CU (BR 891875), WHILE THE 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD BNS OF THE 42ND ARVN REGT HAVE MOVED TO A POSITION ALONG THE SONG KIM RIVER SOUTH OF THE AN LAO. THE REPOSITIONING OF THE 42ND REGT WILL ENABLE IT TO BLOCK ANY SOUTHWEST MOVEMENT OF THE 141ST NVA REGT. CONFIDENTIAL

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THE 3RD BN OF THE 40TH ARVN REGT IS IN TAM QUAN DISTRICT, INTO WHICH, ACCORDING TO MR-2 NHA TRANG HQS, 3 BNS OF THE 12TH NVA REGT ARE NOW MOVING. GENERAL NIEM, COMMANDER OF THE 22ND ARVN DIVISION, IS CONFIDENT THAT THE DIVISION CAN EFFECTIVELY COUNTER THE ANTICIPATED UPSURGE IN NVA/VC ACTIVITY. FINALLY, THE BRIDGE AT BS 903133 IN TAM QUAN HAS BEEN REPAIRED, BUT HEAVY FLOODING AT A BYPASS HAS PREVENTED THE RE-OPENING OF QL-1 IN THE AREA.

3. KONTUM: KONTUM REMAINED CALM. NEVERTHELESS, SECTOR OFFICIALS EXPECT A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN ENEMY ACTIVITY AT THE END OF THIS MONTH. IN ORDER TO DEFEND AGAINST POSSIBLE COMMUNIST ATTEMPTS TO INTERDICT QL-14 BETWEEN KONTUM AND PLEIKU, THE 23RD RANGER GROUP HAS TAKEN POSITIONS AT THE CHU PAO PASS; A TEMPORARY FIRE BASE WILL BE ESTABLISHED THERE SHORTLY. THE 6TH RANGER GROUP HAS MOVED INTO THE 23RD'S FORMER AREA OF OPERATIONS NORTHEAST OF KONTUM. LT. COLONEL MAI XUAN HAU, WHOM II CORPS COMMANDER PHU CONSIDERED INEFFECTIVE, HAS BEEN REPLACED AS PROVINCE CHIEF BY COLONEL PHAN DINH HUNG, COMMANDER OF THE 40TH REGT, WHICH ONLY RECENTLY LEFT KONTUM. (THE NEW COMMANDER OF THE 40TH REGT IS LT. COLONEL TRAN THANH DANH, FORMERLY EXEC OFFICER OF THE 42ND REGT.)

4. PLEIKU: MILITARY ACTIVITY SLACKENED IN PLEIKU THIS WEEK. THE ARVN'S "HOA BINH" OPERATION, WHICH THUS FAR HAS INFLICTED HEAVY CASUALTIES ON AT LEAST 2 BNS OF THE 64TH NVA REGT, CONTINUED AT A LIGHT PACE NEAR THANH AN, TO THE WEST OF PLEIKU CITY. THE OPERATION APPEARS TO HAVE PRE-EMPTED ANY IMMEDIATE COMMUNIST THRUST AGAINST THANH AN. IN ONE OF ONLY TWO CONTACTS TAKING PLACE EAST OF QL-14, THE COMMUNISTS SHELLED AN ARVN PLATOON ON QL-19 NEAR THE BINH DINH BORDER; THE ROAD REMAINED OPEN, HOWEVER. IN THE OTHER INCIDENT, 3 COMMUNIST SAPPERS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THE AMMO DUMP AT AR 801499 NEAR PLEIKU AIRBASE, WERE KILLED AFTER DETONATING A MECHANICAL MINE. ALTHOUGH THE RICE HARVEST IS NEAR TERMINATION, NO COMMUNIST OPERATIONS TO SECURE RICE HAVE BEEN REPORTED. MR-2 HQS REPORTS THAT THE 53RD ARVN REGT HAS LEFT CAMP ENARI AND RELOCATED TO THE NORTHEAST AT LE TRUNG.

5. DARLAC: IN THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT IN DARLAC, AN OUTPOST AT AP 995805 CAME UNDER A COMBINED MORTAR AND GROUND
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ATTACK ON DEC 13. APPARENTLY ONLY 16 MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY WERE IN THE OUTPOST AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACK, WITH THE REST OF THE COMPANY OCCUPYING A NEARBY STRONGPOINT. OF THE 16, 5 WERE KILLED, 7 WOUNDED, AND 1 IS MISSING. SECTOR PRESUMES THAT ELEMENTS OF THE 401ST LOCAL FORCE SAPPER BN, WHICH IS NORMALLY BASED 10 KM EAST OF THE OUTPOST, CONSTITUTED THE ATTACKING FORCE.

6. LAM DONG: MILITARY ACTIVITY INCREASED FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE WEEK IN LAM DONG. IN THE MOST SERIOUS CONTACT OF THE WEEK, A VC PLATOON ATTACKED THE QUANG LAM RESETTLEMENT CAMP NORTHWEST OF BAO LOC, KILLING 6 CIVILIANS AND WOUNDING 17. DESPITE REPEATED VC ATTEMPTS TO INTERDICT QL-20, THE HIGHWAY REMAINED OPEN (THOUGH IT WAS BLOCKED FOR A FEW HOURS DEC 11, 8 KM SOUTHWEST OF BAO LOC).

7. BINH THUAN: THE ANTICIPATED PICK-UP IN VC HARASSMENT IN BINH THUAN MATERIALIZED, ESPECIALLY IN THIEN GIAO, HAM THUAN, AND PHAN LY CHAM DISTRICTS. IN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CLASH OF THE WEEK, A VC COMPANY INTERDICTED HIGHWAY 8B ON DEC 12 BY OCCUPYING BINH LAM HAMLET. WITHIN HOURS SECTOR FORCES CLEARED THE HAMLET, KILLING 12 VC WHILE SUSTAINING 2 KILLED. QL-1 WAS ALSO BLOCKED TEMPORARILY AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS ON DEC 11, 12, AND 14. IN OTHER CONTACTS, THE VC SHELLED A RESETTLEMENT SITE AT LUONG SON, ATTACKED 2 PF PLATOONS NORTHEAST OF PHAN THIET, AND ASSAULTED AN RF COMPANY NORTH OF HAM THUAN.

8. OTHER: IN PHU YEN ON DEC 12, THE 2ND CO. OF THE 268TH RF BN AMBUSHED A VC SECURITY-ESCORT FORCE, KILLING 14 VC, INCLUDING THE COMMISSIONER OF THE PROVINCE CURRENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. CONTINUED NVA/VC MOVEMENT HAS BEEN REPORTED ACROSS THE CAMBODIAN BORDER FROM DUC LAP DISTRICT, QUANG DUC. EISTRICT OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN THAT DUC LAP MAY BE ATTACKED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IN THE MOST SEVERE NVA ATTACK IN TUYEN DUC SINCE FEBRUARY 1974, THE NVA ATTACKED RO LOM HAMLET (AP 967117), KILLING 15 CIVILIANS AND 6 SOLDIERS, AND WOUNDING 32 CIVILIANS AND 7 SOLDIERS.

9. ICCS: THREE ALLEGED CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS IN LAM DONG WERE REPORTED TO THE ICCS. THE INDONESIAN ICCS DELEGATION INVESTIGATED ONE OF THESE (THE VC ATTACK ON QUANG LAM RESETTLEMENT CAMP).

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CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
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PART VII - MR-3

1. ALTHOUGH INCIDENTS IN MR-3 ARE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE THE CEASEFIRE, 452 COMPARED WITH A PREVIOUS HIGH OF 399 IN AUGUST 1974, AND THE GVN LOST THE FIRST DISTRICT TOWN IN MR-3 SINCE THE CEASEFIRE, THE COMMUNISTS DID NOT PERSIST IN THEIR HEAVY ASSAULT WAVES IN THE TWO MAIN BATTLE AREAS, TAY NINH TO THE WEST AND BINH TUY PROVINCE IN THE EAST. AS PRESSURE EASED IN THOSE TWO AREAS, IT FLARED IN PHUOC LONG PROVINCE WHERE THE GVN LOST THE DISTRICT TOWN OF DUC PHONG. A FURTHER WAVE OF ATTACKS AGAINST TAY NINH CITY IS EXPECTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND MR-3 HQ EXPECTS AN ATTACK BY DAY BY THE 7TH NVA DIV AGAINST PHU GIAO IN NORTHEAST BINH DUONG PROVINCE. THE 1974-75 DRY SEASON CAMPAIGN IS NOT EXPECTED TO PEAK, HOWEVER, UNTIL THE 9TH NVA DIV IS COMMITTED. BEST ESTIMATES CURRENTLY ARE THAT THE 9TH WILL MOVE IN JANUARY, PROBABLY IN THE SAIGON RIVER CORRIDOR.

2. TAY NINH AND HOAI DUC RICE BOWL AREA ALONE ACCOUNTED FOR 246 OF THE WEEK'S 452 INCIDENTS. TAY NINH WAS HIGHEST WITH 124 INCIDENTS (108 THE PREVIOUS WEEK), WHILE BINH TUY HAD 61 (FOUR THE WEEK BEFORE), AND PHUOC LONG ACTIVITY JUMPED FROM TWO TO 44 INCIDENTS. MR-3 HQS REPORTED 93 GROUND CONTACTS (77), 214 ATTACKS BY FIRE (122 LAST WEEK), AND 39 COMBINED GROUND AND ABFS (41). THERE WERE 12 MINING INCIDENTS AND 94 OTHER MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS.

3. NVA/VC FIRED 3,833 MORTAR, 73 ROCKET, AND 57 ARTILLERY ROUNDS FOR A TOTAL OF 3,963 (2,533 THE PREVIOUS PERIOD). ARVN ARTILLERY GREATLY INCREASED FROM 10,745 TO 40,113 ROUNDS. VNAF FLEW 253 FIXED-WING SORTIES AND 382 HELICOPTER GUNSHIP MISSIONS.

4. GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 164 KIA, 556 WIA, AND 54 MIA. NVA/VC SUSTAINED 216 KIA AND TWO CIA. ADDITIONALLY, VNAF REPORTED 302 NVA/VC KILLED BY AIR STRIKES.

5. IN TAY NINH PROVINCE REGIONAL FORCE DEFENDERS ON BA DEN MOUNTAIN CONTINUED TO HOLD THEIR POSITION UNDER REPEATED SAPPER ATTACKS AND ATTACKS BY FIRE, DESPITE VNAF INABILITY TO RESUPPLY
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AND EVACUATE CASUALTIES BECAUSE OF HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT AND SMALL ARMS FIRE. NE OF TAY NINH CITY HEAVY NVA/VC ASSAULTS AGAINST PHUOC HOI AND SUOI DA VILLAGE OUTPOSTS BEGAN TO SLACKEN NEAR THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD. ON DEC 14, ELEMENTS OF THE 46TH REGT, 25TH ARVN DIV REACHED SUOI DA AND REINFORCED TERRITORIAL FORCE DEFENDERS THERE. TAY NINH CITY ITSELF RECEIVED SPORADIC ABFS WITH AT LEAST THREE DEAD AND 14 WOUNDED THROUGH DEC 15.

6. ON DEC 13, COMMUNIST FORCES INITIATED HEAVY AND CONCENTRATED

ATTACKS IN PHUOC LONG PROVINCE AGAINST DUC PHONG DISTRICT TOWN, BUNARD OUTPOST, AND NEW BO DUC RESETTLEMENT SITE. DUC PHONG FELL TO THE COMMUNISTS DEC 14. AT LAST REPORT THE DISTRICT CHIEF AND FOUR OTHERS WERE IN THE JUNGLE IN RADIO CONTACT WITH PROVINCE HQS. NEW BO DUC SITE WAS LOST TO THE NVA/VC DEC 15 BUT WAS RETAKEN DEC 16 BY A BATTALION OF RF SENT FROM PROVINCE HQS. BUNARD OUTPOST (YT 2689) WAS OVERRUN DEC 14 AND REMAINS IN COMMUNIST HANDS. DONG XOAI DISTRICT TOWN IN THE SOUTHWEST IS APPARENTLY SURROUNDED BY NVA/VC AND ATTACK IS EXPECTED MOMENTARILY WITH ONLY THREE RF COMPANIES THERE TO DEFEND. SONG BE PROVINCE CAPITAL CONTINUES TO RECEIVE SPORADIC ABFS.

7. THE SITUATION REMAINS UNCHANGED IN THE HOAI DUC RICE BOWL AREA WITH THE GVN UNDER PRESSURE BUT HOLDING AT TANH LINH AND HOAI DUC DISTRICT TOWN, AND WITH FOUR ARVN BATTALIONS (TWO FROM THE 48TH ARVN REGT AND TWO OF RANGERS) COMMITTED NORTH OF GIA RAY ON THE LONG KHANH/BINH TUY BORDER AGAINST THE 33RD NVA REGT. ABFS CONTINUED AGAINST TANH LINH SUBSECTOR BUT COMMUNIST GROUND ATTACKS HAVE CEASED FOR THE TIME BEING. TANH LINH HAS BEEN RESUPPLIED. TWO BATTALIONS OF THE 48TH REGT, 18TH ARVN DIV AND TWO FROM THE 7TH RANGERS CONTINUED TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE 33RD NVA REGT IN FULFILLMENT OF THEIR MISSION TO REDUCE THE 33RD BEFORE REINFORCING HOAI DUC AND TANH LINH. ON DEC 11, A COMPANY OF THE 32ND RANGER BATTALION, WHILE BEING REINFORCED BY TWO ADDITIONAL COMPANIES OF THE SAME UNIT, WAS AMBUSHED ON ROUTE 333, SIX TO SEVEN KMS NE OF GIA RAY BY ELEMENTS OF THE 33RD NVA REGT, AND LOST THREE KILLED, TWENTY WOUNDED AND NUMEROUS WEAPONS. NVA/VC FORCES BLEW A BRIDGE TWO KMS SOUTH OF HOAI DUC DEC 17. HOAI DUC REMAINS IN TERRITORIAL FORCE CONTROL BUT CONTINUES TO RECEIVE SAPPER PROBES, ABF'S AND ON ONE OCCASION AN APPEAL BY NVA/VC LOUDSPEAKER TO WITHDRAW TO COMMUNIST LINES BEFORE FURTHER
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ATTACKS ARE MOUNTED. RF TROOPS REOCCUPIED VO XU VILLAGE NE OF HOAI DUC.

8. ON DEC 11 AND 13, THREE UH-1 HELICOPTERS WERE DAMAGED DURING SUCCESSFUL RESUPPLY EFFORTS IN THE TANH LINH AREA OF BINH TUY PROVINCE. ON DEC 12 AND 13, THREE UH-1 CHOPPERS WERE DAMAGED BY GROUND FIRE WHILE ATTEMPTING TO RESUPPLY BA DEN MOUNTAIN, WITH ONE PILOT KILLED AND FOUR CREW WOUNDED. ON DEC 14 AN A-37 AIRCRAFT WAS LOST TO AN SA-7 WHILE ON A CLOSE AIR SUPPORT MISSION NEAR BA DEN MOUNTAIN. THE PILOT EJECTED AND WAS RECOVERED. ON DEC 17 A C-130 RESUPPLYING SONG BE WITH RICE WAS HIT ON THE GROUND BY TWO 107 ROCKETS, DESTROYING A FUEL TANK AND ONE ENGINE.

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 PM-03 INR-05

IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 DPW-01 PRS-01

OMB-01 SS-15 DODE-00 /086 W
----- 098913

R 180950Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1199

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

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9. BETWEEN DEC 10 AND DEC 15 THERE WERE EIGHT ROAD INTERDICTIONS BY NVA/VC FORCES ALONG QL 1, QL 22, AND QL 20 (ROAD TO DALAT). ALL WERE CLEARED OR REPAIRED WITHIN A SHORT TIME. FIVE INVOLVED CULVERTS BLOWN ALONG QL 22 IN TAY NINH PROVINCE.

10. THERE WERE SIX OBSERVATIONS CONDUCTED IN ICCS REGION V THIS WEEK. ON DEC 10, THE INDONESIAN AND IRANIAN DELEGATIONS OBSERVED THE SITE OF A ROCKET IMPACT ON A CIVILIAN AREA SEVEN KMS NORTH OF BEN LUC DISTRICT TOWN WHICH KILLED TWO AND WOUNDED TWO. THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION OBSERVED THE DESTRUCTION OF AMMUNITION IN LONG BINH ON DEC 11 AND 12. ON DEC 12 THE INDONESIANS AND IRANIANS OBSERVED THE SITE OF AN EXPLOSION IN THE XUAN LOC MARKET EARLIER THAT DAY WHICH KILLED SEVEN AND WOUNDED 22. INDODEL RECEIVED DEMONSTRATORS PROTESTING THIS INCIDENT. ON DEC 13 INDODEL AND IRANDEL OBSERVED THE SITE OF A COMMUNIST ATTACK ON BINH QUOI VILLAGE IN LONG AN EARLIER THAT DAY, WHICH LEFT EIGHT PF DEAD AND FOUR WOUNDED. INDODEL OBSERVED THE SITE OF A SHELLING AGAINST A GVN POST IN MUI LON HAMLET NEAR CU CHI DEC 14. LATER THAT DAY, THE IRANIAN AND INDONESIAN DELEGATIONS OBSERVED THE SITE OF AN ATTACK AGAINST BINH LUC VILLAGE WHICH TOOK PLACE EARLY DEC 14.

PART VIII - MR-4

1. MILITARY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL SECURITY: EXTREMELY HIGH LEVELS OF FIGHTING CONTINUED INTO THE SECOND WEEK, WITH A SHIFT IN FOCUS TO THE NORTHERN PROVINCES. KIEN TUONG WAS ADDED TO CHUONG THIEN AND VINH BINH AS PROVINCES EXPERIENCING VERY HEAVY VC/NVA PRESSURE, BUT, DESPITE SOME VC/NVA GAINS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, RVNAF CONTINUES TO REACT EFFECTIVELY AND INFLICT HEAVY LOSSES. MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT OF THE PERIOD WAS THE WITHDRAWAL OF GVN PRESENCE FROM HUNG LONG DISTRICT HQ IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE. THOUGH ACTIVITY REMAINS WELL ABOVE NORMAL HIGHPOINT LEVELS, FIGHTING AT THE END OF THE PERIOD SHOWS SOME SIGNS OF SLACKENING. CORPS EXPECTS HIGH LEVEL OF VC/NVA CASUALTIES AND SUPPLY EXPENDITURES, TOGETHER WITH INCREASED LUNAR ILLUMINATION, TO CAUSE CONTINUED DECREASE IN ACTIVITY IN COMING WEEK. CORPS
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REPORTS 1049 VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS (962 LAST WEEK) CONSISTING OF 195 GROUND ATTACKS (203), 11 INFILTRATIONS (3), 595 ABF'S (524), 208 HARASSMENTS (173), 17 SABOTAGE (40), 22 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (15), AND ONE OTHER INCIDENT. GVN LOSSES INCREASED FURTHER TO 399 KIA (333), 1632 WIA (1382), 276 MIA (225), AND 36 CREW-SERVED (20) AND 745 INDIVIDUAL (435) WEAPONS LOST. CORPS CLAIMS 1283 VC/NVA KILLED (1680), 22 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS

CAPTURED (75), AND 56 CREW-SERVED (80) AND 306 INDIVIDUAL (429 WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B) NORTHERN DELTA: IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE, 14 OB'S IN 5 OF THE PROVINCE'S 8 DISTRICTS, ONE HAMLET OFFICE IN CHO CAO (D) AND A VILLAGE OFFICE IN CAI BE (D) WERE ABANDONED OR OVERRUN. THE VILLAGE OFFICE WAS REOCCUPIED AFTER A FEW HOURS. HAU MY DISTRICT HQ AND 7 VILLAGE HQ WERE MORTARED. MININGS CLOSED ROUTES 20 AND 29 WHILE ROUTE 30 REMAINS CLOSED. A SAMPAN TRAVELLING ON THE CANAL ADJOINING ROUTE 29 WAS STOPPED BY VC AND 12 OF ITS 15 PASSENGERS KILLED. REPORTED INCIDENTS ON HIGHWAY 4 INCLUDED MID-AFTERNOON SNIPINGS AT A BUS IN CAI LAY (D) WHICH WOUNDED 3 CIVILIANS AND AT A JEEP IN CAI BE (D) WHICH KILLED AN ARVN MAJOR. MOST SIGNIFICANT GVN REACTION WAS TO HEAVY VC/NVA PRESSURE IN CHU GAO(D), WHERE RF INTERBATTALION GROUP KILLED 22 VC WHILE SUSTAINING 3 KIA AND 4 WIA. IN NEIGHBORING GO CONG PROVINCE, SECTOR FORCES KILLED 32 VC IN RESPONSE TO THE INFILTRATION OF A VILLAGE. IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE, MOST ACTIVITY WAS IN TUYEN NHON (D) WHERE ELEMENTS OF 275TH RGT/5TH NVA DIVISION AND 367B SAPPER RGT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. MORTARING OF THE DISTRICT TOWN DEC 15 CAUSED NO CASUALTIES. KIEN BINH AND TUYEN BINH DISTRICT TOWNS WERE ALSO MORTARED WITH 6 CIVILIANS KILLED AND 4 WOUNDED IN THE FORMER. THE PROVINCE CAPITAL WAS SHELLLED THREE TIMES WITH 10 KILLED AND 20 WOUNDED. VC/NVA FORCES HAVE SEVERED SURFACE ROUTES FROM MOC HOA TO BOTH TUYEN NHAN AND TUYEN BINH DISTRICTS AND, WHILE GREATEST PRESSURE SO FAR HAS BEEN IN TUYEN NHON, A REGIMENT OF 5TH NVA DIVISION REMAINS DIRECTLY ACROSS BORDER FROM TUYEN BINH AND COULD BEGIN OPERATIONS THERE AT ANY TIME. HEAVY BLOW TO ARVN WAS LOSS OF CH-47 HELICOPTER CARRYING 61 ARVN TO SA-7 OVER SW PART OF THE PROVINCE. ACTIVITY IN KIEN PHONG PROVINCE CENTERED IN EASTERN CAO LANH (D) AND ALONG THE THAP MUOI CANAL, WHICH WAS CLOSED DURING MOST OF THE WEEK. ALL SEVEN GROUND ATTACKS WERE AGAINST 4 OB'S IN CAO LANH (D) AND ONE OF THESE OB'S WAS ABANDONED. MY AN DISTRICT TOWN WAS SHELLLED TWICE - 5 CIVILIANS HAVE BEEN KILLED AND 3 WOUNDED THERE SINCE DEC 9.

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 PM-03 INR-05

IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 DPW-01 PRS-01

OMB-01 SS-15 DODE-00 /086 W
----- 098912

R 180950Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1200
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL JEC PARIS
USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING

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(C) CENTRAL DELTA: ACTIVITY IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE INCREASED,
PARTICULARLY IN DON NHON (D), WHERE DONG THAP 1 RGT IS OPERATING,
AND IN GIONG TROM (D) WHERE THE DONG KHOI RGT IS OPERATING. BOTH
REGIMENTS HAVE BEEN KEPT AWAY FROM HEAVILY POPULATED AREAS BY A

SERIES OF GVN INITIATIVES, AND DONG THAP 1, IN PARTICULAR, HAS SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES AND HAS BEEN UNABLE TO ORGANIZE AND EXECUTE SIGNIFICANT ATTACKS SINCE MOVING INTO KIEN HOA LAST WEEK. SIX HAMLET OFFICES AND ONE OUTPOST WERE OVERRUN, BUT ALL WERE RETAKEN. VNAF LOST AN A-37 TO 12.5MM AA FIRE IN DON NHON (D). IN VINH BINH PROVINCE, CONCENTRATION OF ACTIVITY MOVED FROM TIEU CAN (D) NORTHWARD TO CAU NGANG (D) AS WEEK PROGRESSED. THREE MORE VILLAGES (2 IN CAU NGANG, ONE IN TRA CU) WERE OVERRUN WITH ONE SINCE RETAKEN, WHILE 28 OB'S OR WATCHTOWERS WERE REPORTED OVERRUN OR ABANDONED. SINCE DEC 5, 50 OB'S AND WATCHTOWERS, 10 VILLAGE OFFICES, AND 54 HAMLET OFFICES HAVE BEEN REPORTED OVERRUN OR ABANDONED. 6 VILLAGE AND 36 HAMLET OFFICES HAVE BEEN RETAKEN. ACTIVITY IN VINH LONG PROVINCE CONSISTED OF WIDELY-SCATTERED SMALL UNIT CONTACTS WITH GVN CASUALTIES RESULTING MOSTLY FROM SECURITY OPERATIONS. NUMBER OF CONTACTS FELL OFF OVER THE WEEKEND, AND HIGHPOINT APPEARS TO BE ENDING FOR VINH LONG. IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE, THE ONLY GROUND ATTACK WAS AGAINST A HAMLET OFFICE IN PHONG HIEP (D) WHICH RESULTED IN 5 POLICE KILLED AND 6 WOUNDED. MORE THAN 160 MORTAR ROUNDS WERE FIRED INTO THE DISTRICT TOWN AND 2 VILLAGE HQ OF THUAN NHON (D) ON 16 DIFFERENT OCCASIONS, BUT THE ONLY CASUALTY WAS A VILLAGE CHIEF KIA. IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE, MOST SERIOUS INCIDENTS WERE ABF'S AGAINST VILLAGE AND DISTRICT HQ'S. SOE SON VILLAGE AT BASE OF BA THE CANAL WAS HARDEST HIT: OVER 110 MORTAR ROUNDS KILLED 1 PF AND 6 CIVILIANS AND WOUNDED 7 CIVILIANS. HEAVY ATTACKS WERE LAUNCHED AGAINST AN RF BN HQ AND ARTILLERY OB ALONG THE SAME CANAL, AND THE ARTILLERY POSITION WAS ABANDONED AFTER SUSTAINING HEAVY CASUALTIES. 4 VILLAGE HQ'S IN KIEN BINH (D) WERE HEAVILY SHELLED AND ONE WAS ABANDONED AFTER A SUBSEQUENT GROUND ATTACK. AN RF BN WAS MOVED OUT OF HIEU LE (D) TO RACH GIA, AND AN RF CO WAS MOVED FROM HIEU LE TO KIEN AN (D); DEFENSE OF THE TWO SOUTHERNMOST DISTRICTS NOW DEPENDS HEAVILY ON 21ST ARVN DIVISION SUPPORT.

(D) SOUTHERN DELTA: IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE, HOA TU, THUAN HOA, AND

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THANH TRI DISTRICT HQ'S ALL RECEIVED ABF'S WHICH WOUNDED 4 CIVILIANS. ONE OB IN THANH TRI (D) AND ONE WATCHTOWER IN THUAN HOA (D) WERE ABANDONED, WHILE NUMEROUS LIGHT ABF'S AND HARASSMENTS WERE SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE PROVINCE. ACTIVITY IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE DECLINED SIGNIFICANTLY BUT 4 OB'S-3 IN GIA RAI (D) AND 1 IN VINH LOI (D)- WERE ABANDONED AND HAVE NOT YET BEEN REOCCUPIED. IN ONE CASE, 5 PF ABANDONED THEIR SURROUNDED OUTPOST TO JOIN THE VC IN RESPONSE TO A LOUDSPEAKER BROADCAST. TRAFFIC ON HIGHWAY 4 WAS HALTED TEMPORARILY 4 KM WSW OF GIA RAI DISTRICT TOWN WHEN A BRIDGE WAS BLOWN UP. IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE, HUNG LONG DISTRICT HQ REPORTEDLY FELL ON THE LAST NIGHT OF THE REPORTING PERIOD AFTER ALMOST TWO WEEKS OF HEAVY PRESSURE. DEFENDERS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE FOUGHT THEIR WAY THROUGH SURROUNDING VC/NVA FORCES 2 KM NW OF THE HQ, BUT DETAILS HAVE NOT YET BEEN REPORTED BY SECTOR. OF MAJOR CONCERN TO SECTOR IS OVERRUNNING OF A

VILLAGE ON ROUTE 31 IN KIEN HUNG (D). ROUTE 31 THROUGH LOWER KIEN HUNG (D) IS NOW LOST TO THE OTHER SIDE FOR FIRST TIME SINCE MID-1973. EVERY VILLAGE HQ IN KIEN HUNG (D) AND ALSO THE KIEN HUNG AND KIEN THIEU DISTRICT HQ'S WERE SHELLLED. VI THANH WAS HIT BY 107MM ROCKET ON THREE OCCASIONS WITH SOME CIVILIAN CASUALTIES REPORTED. IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE, ALL DIVISION TROOPS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN. LOSS OF KHANH BINH TAY (V), SONG ONG DOC (D) WAS OFFICIALLY REPORTED (SEE LAST WEEK'S SITREP). 10 OB'S WERE ELIMINATED DURING THE WEEK DUE TO MILITARY PRESSURE OR TROOP REDEPLOYMENTS. THREE OF THESE WERE ON IMPORTANT LOC'S IN DAM DOI (D), AND THE VC/NVA PROMPTLY BLOCKED ONE OF THESE CANALS.

2. GVN AFFAIRS: MR-4 TACTICAL AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY HAVE BEEN CHANGED EFFECTIVE DEC 15. 9TH DIVISION HAS LOST NORTHERN KIEN GIANG AND SE KIEN PHONG. 7TH DIVISION NOW HAS DINH TOUNG, GO CONG, KIEN HOA AND SE KIEN PHONG. 21ST HAS BAC LIEU, AN XUYEN, KIEN GIANG, AND CHUONG THIEN. REMAINING PROVINCES ARE UNDER MR4 TASK FORCE COMMANDED BY SENIOR MR4 STAFF OFFICER. 6 ARVN BATTALIONS ARE CURRENTLY IN NEW TASK FORCE AREA. TERRITORIAL FORCE TROOPS REMAIN UNDER SECTOR CONTROL, BUT PROVINCE CHIEFS IN NEWLY-CREATED AREA REPORT DIRECTLY TO MR4 HQ.

3. ICCS AFFAIRS: ICCS REGION VI RECEIVED COMPLAINTS OF 27 CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS. INDONESIAN AND IRANIAN DELEGATES MADE "OBSERVATIONS" OF A MINING ON ROUTE 26 IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE AND OF THE DEC 10 SHELLING OF MOC HOA WHICH KILLED 8 CIVILAINS AND WOUNDED 13.
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REGION VII RECEIVED 19 COMPLAINTS OF 82 CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS, BUT CONDUCTED NO OBSERVATIONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VIETNAM CEASEFIRE WEEKLY ASSESSMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
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Type: TE
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